

CONDITIONAL PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

If entry and consideration of the amendments above requires an extension of time, Applicants respectfully request that this be considered a petition therefor. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee(s) due in this connection to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

ADDITIONAL FEE

Please charge any insufficiency of fees, or credit any excess, to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

USSN 10/618,134

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100725-37

Combined Preliminary Amendment and Response to Restriction Requirement

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

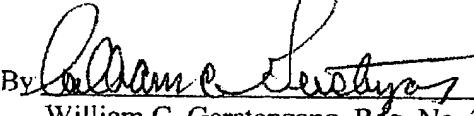
In formal compliance with the restriction requirement, Applicants hereby elect without traverse to prosecute the subject matter of Group IV, claims 9-11. Applicants have canceled the non-elected subject matter without prejudice, and expressly reserve the right to prosecute the non-elected subject matter in one or more divisional applications.

Claim 9 has been amended to render it independent. Also, new claims 29 and 30 have been added. Claim 29 is supported by the specification, for example, at page 9, first paragraph, next-to-last sentence (lines 13-15). Claim 30 is supported by the same passage, and, also, by page 9, second paragraph, third and fourth sentences (lines 23-31). Applicants do not believe that any of the amendments introduce new matter.

Early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

NORRIS MC LAUGHLIN & MARCUS, P.A.

By 
William C. Gerstenzang, Reg. No. 27,552
For Kurt G. Briscoe, Reg. No. 33,141
Attorney for Applicant(s)
875 Third Avenue - 18th Floor
New York, New York 10022
Phone: (212) 808-0700
Fax: (212) 808-0844